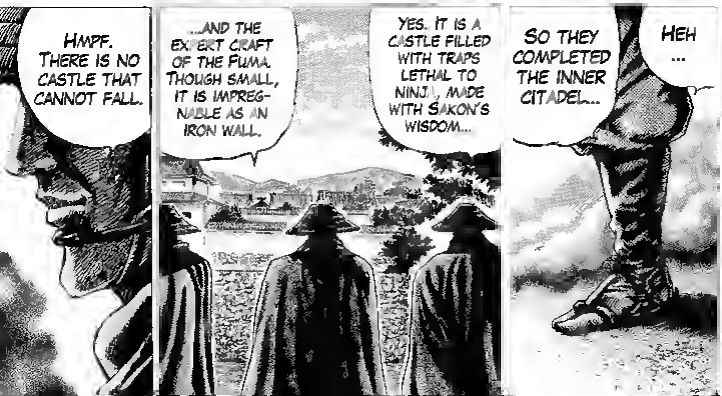
July 1607
(Keicho Year 12)

History says that this castle, constructed right in the middle of what is now Shizuoka City, was built so that Ieyasu, in his new capacity as Cloistered Shogun, could run his dual politics behind Hidetada in Edo.

On the completion of Sunpu Castle, Ieyasu moves in... (However, the castle keep was not to be completed until December of that year...)

Chapter 22: Sunpu Castle

built this castle to prepare for war against Edo!
However, the truth is that the Shadow Warrior Jirosaburo and Shima Sakon...


HMPF. THERE IS NO CASTLE THAT CANNOT FALL.
...AND THE EXPERT CRAFT OF THE FUMA. THOUGH SMALL, IT IS IMPREGNABLE AS AN IRON WALL.
YES. IT IS A CASTLE FILLED WITH TRAPS LETHAL TO NINJA, MADE WITH SAKON'S WISDOM...
SO THEY COMPLETED THE INNER CITADEL...
HEH ...

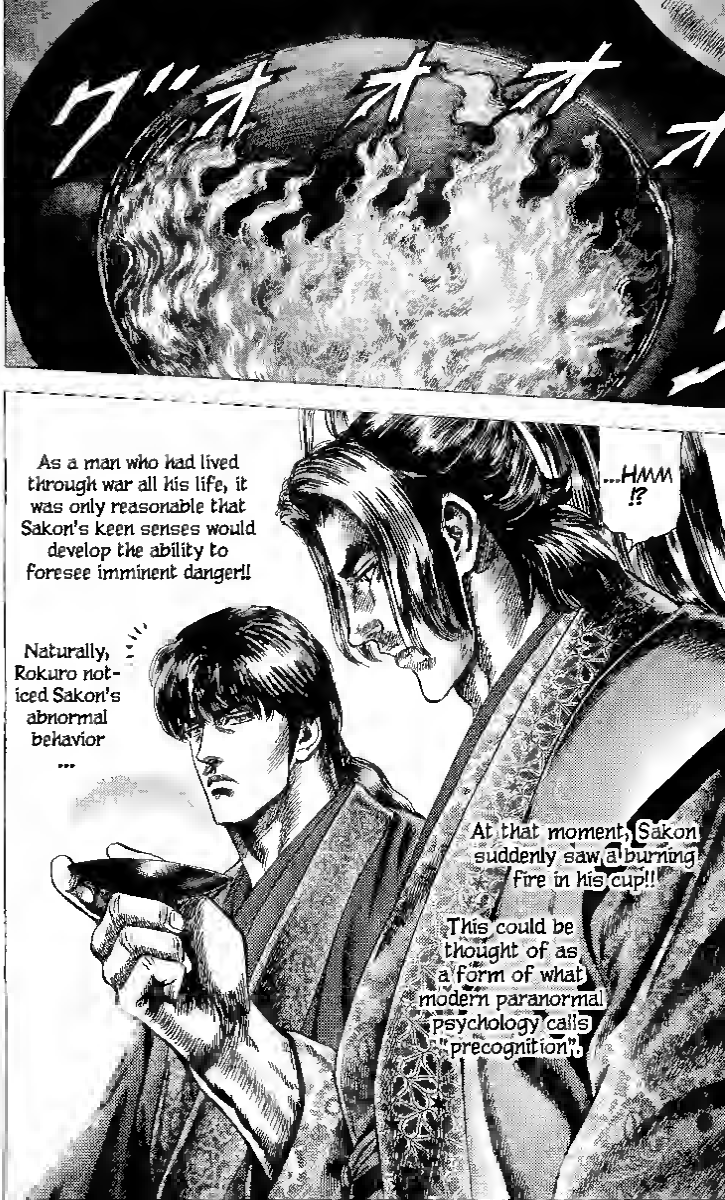
Chapter 22:
Sunpu Castle

CHEERS!
HEY, HEY, FUSAI.
ARE YOU THAT HAPPY ABOUT OUR CASTLE'S COMPLETION?
I HAVE NEVER FELT SO MUCH JOY IN MY LIFE
HOW JOYOUS ...
HAHHA HAHA!
THE FUMA HAVE LONG DESIRED A CASTLE!
I AM HAPPY! FOR THIS COULD BE CALLED THE FUMA CLAN'S CASTLE!
GRAND-FATHER!

JOINING FORCES WITH THE FUMA, WE ARE FLAWLESS.
WITH THE POWER OF THE TOKUGAWA...
YES, YOU ARE VERY RIGHT.
NO, NO.
WE ARE AN ALLIANCE OF THREE, TOGETHER WITH YOU, LORD SAKON, WHO DESIRES THE SURVIVAL OF THE TOYOTOMI.
POWERFUL ALLIES WHOM I WOULD NOT TRADE FOR THE WORLD.
YOU ARE ALL
WHAT'S MORE, BY BECOMING A CLOISTERED SHOGUN, I STILL HAVE THE POSITION OF HEAD OF THE CLAN, THE SYMBOL OF THE LEADER OF ALL SAMURAI.
NOW WE CAN FULLY RESIST HIDETADA, WHO IS NOW SHOGUN.

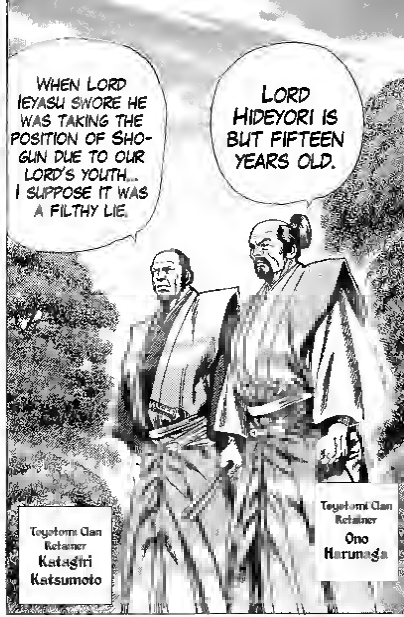
TO THREATEN TO EXPOSE THE SHADOW WARRIOR PROJECT WITH LETTERS HAS GIVEN US ENOUGH TIME TO FORTIFY SUNPU, IT WON'T DO ANY MORE FOR US.
BUT WHILE OUR PLAN
I HAVE ALL THE TRUE AUTHORITY! TAKE THAT!
HIDETADA IS DOING NO MORE THAN PRETENDING!
The difference between the Shogun and the Head of the Clan was this: while Hidetada, the Shogun, stood above all other samurai in political and military affairs, it was Jirosaburo, the Head of the Clan, who possessed all the status and authority of the symbolic leader of the samurai!!
WELL, YOU SEE ...
UGH!

!!
HE'LL SEND THE YAGYU AFTER US, WILL HE?
I WONDER HOW THEY'LL ATTACK.
NOW THEN ...


ヴォオオオ
As a man who had lived through war all his life, it was only reasonable that Sakon's keen senses would develop the ability to foresee imminent danger!!
...HMM !?
Naturally, Rokuro noticed Sakon's abnormal behavior ...
At that moment, Sakon suddenly saw a burning fire in his cup!!
This could be thought of as a form of what modern paranormal psychology calls "precognition".

Osaka Castle
NOW THE NATION BELONGS COMPLETELY TO TOKUGAWA.
AND SINCE LORD HIDETADA HAS TAKEN HIS SEAT AS THE SECOND SHOGUN ...
WE TOYOTOMI ...
HAVE LOST ALL HOPE OF LORD HIDEYORI'S RESTORATION.

SO WILL YOU ABANDON THE TOYOTOMI?


WHEN LORD IEYASU SWORE HE WAS TAKING THE POSITION OF SHOGUN DUE TO OUR LORD'S YOUTH... I SUPPOSE IT WAS A FILTHY LIE.
LORD HIDEYORI IS BUT FIFTEEN YEARS OLD.
Toyotomi Clan Retainer Katagiri Katsumoto
Toyotomi Clan Retainer Ono Harunaga

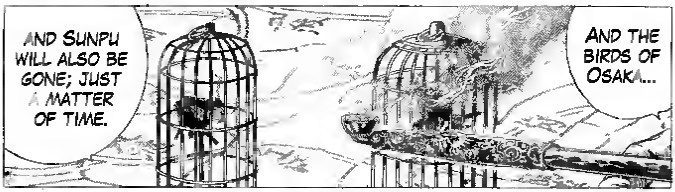
Y-YOU'RE ...
AH!

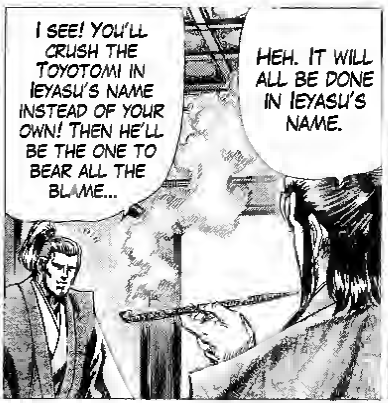
H-HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE?
WE AP-OLOGIZE THAT YOU HAD TO HEAR THAT.
O-OUR LORD'S MOTHER !!

HO HOHO ...
THERE'S NO TELLING WHEN YOU RETAINERS MIGHT BETRAY YOUR LORD... SO DON'T UNDERESTIMATE MY EARS.
Lady Yodo
"IT WAS IEYASU'S OWN DECISION TO APPOINT ME AS SHOGUN.
"IN TIME, I FULLY INTEND TO RESTORE THE TOYOTOMI TO POWER."
YOUR CONCERNS ...
ARE SIMPLY OVER-ANXIETY. BEHOLD THIS LETTER FROM LORD HIDETADA
L-LORD HIDETADA ?

WHICH MEANS ...
WILL CERTAINLY APPOINT HIDEYORI AS SHOGUN. SO REST ASSURED.
IN TIME, LORD HIDETADA...
I-IS THAT THE TRUTH?
IT IS.
THE NATION'S RULER WILL BE HIDEYORI!
IF IEYASU DIES...

Edo Castle
WELL, MUNENORI? WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE TO YOU?
HMPF I GUESS I MADE IT TOO SIMPLE.
SO THIS REPRESENTS THE CURRENT STATE OF JAPAN UNDER YOUR RULE, AND THE BIRDCAGES ARE FEUDAL LORDS WHO HAVE BEEN STRIPPED OF THEIR POWER. I AM OVERWHELMED, MY LORD.
OHH.
THIS IS A VERY SOPHISTICATED IDEA, MY LORD.
IT WOULD BE TO SAY THAT THIS NATION IS LIKE UNTO A BIRD I CAN CRUSH AT MY WHIM
IF I WERE TO ADD ONE THING...


AND SUNPU WILL ALSO BE GONE; JUST A MATTER OF TIME.
AND THE BIRDS OF OSAKA...

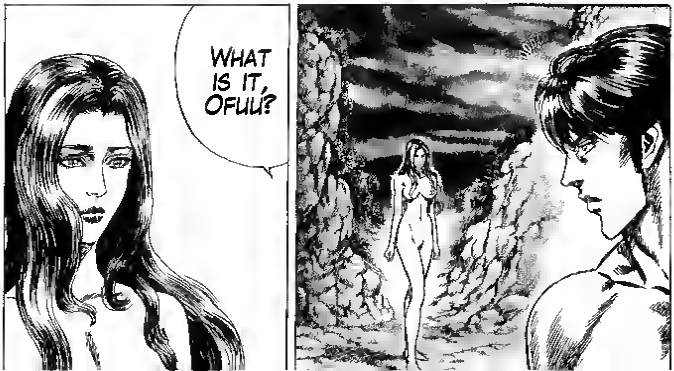

I SEE! YOU'LL CRUSH THE TOYOTOMI IN IEYASU'S NAME INSTEAD OF YOUR OWN! THEN HE'LL BE THE ONE TO BEAR ALL THE BLAME...
HEH. IT WILL ALL BE DONE IN IEYASU'S NAME.

WHAT NOW!?
DID YOU NOT SEND LADY YODO A LETTER PROMISING THE POSITION OF SHOGUN?
THIS SEEMS SOMEWHAT STRANGE TO ME.

He is but the Toyotomis' puppet. I will manipulate him as I please and hoist my shameful deeds onto his back! The world will hunger for the irreproachable Hidetada to rule it!
Heh... He may think he is retaining my power by becoming the cloistered Shogun, but this means nothing.
I have already sent masters of the Yagyu to Sunpu. We will make them know their place.
As you wish.

ウ"ミ"ミ"ミ

HAVE COMPLETELY HEALED.
MY WOUNDS ...


WHAT IS IT, OFUU?

!!
O-OFUU, YOU MEAN...
...I AM...
WITH CHILD.

BEAR US A GREAT CHILD.
I SEE ...
I AM WORRIED ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN EDO ATTACKS.
I AM NO LONGER ABLE TO PROTECT YOU FROM BEHIND.
I AM WORRIED.
HMM? WHAT IS IT!?

I HAVE MASTERED IT.
THE TECHNIQUE YOUR FATHER TAUGHT ME, FUMA IMMOBILIZING LIGHTNING ...
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.
T-THANK GOODNESS.
YOUR FATHER ...
MUST HAVE PASSED THE TECHNIQUE ON TO ME WITH THIS DAY IN MIND.
BUT THOUGH I'VE MASTERED THE TECHNIQUE, THE RAKSHASA ARE ON THEIR WAY... AND GENMUSAI MAY HAVE ALREADY CAUGHT ON TO SOMETHING!!
.....!

How inconvenient that they are leading the Fuma.
So that is Rokuro of Kai, and Ofuu, daughter of Fuma Kotaro.
And we will attack Rokuro of Kai's dwelling and eliminate them both!
Tonight, at the Hour of the Ox (2 A.M.), they will set fires, and our comrades will send Ieyasu to his grave.
We already have our female ninjas waiting in Sunpu Castle
Hee heehee ...

!!
UNNGH!
THE CASTLE !!
ゴゴゴゴゴ

USHA SHA !
BBHP PHBBH ...
BBBB HEHEH HEH ...
CUTTIN' TIME, CUTTIN' TIME, CUTTIN' TIME! PREPARE TO DIE, ROKURO OF KAI!!
HEHHEHEHE! YOU WILL DIE BEFORE YOU CAN SAVE IEYASU.
OUR COMRADES HAVE ALREADY INFILTRATED SUNPU CASTLE BY NOW.
YOU IDIOTS ARE MARCHING TO DEATH IN VAIN. GET LOST.
LORD IEYASU HAS ALREADY ESCAPED BY NOW.
YOU MORON !!
WHAT 'RE YA TALKIN' ABOUT !?

ガ
ガ
ARABIA...

HEBO RAGYA AAAH!
HEH?
UNNNGH... IT CAN'T BE!! THEY NOTICED US?
Sakon's prediction was correct. This was why they had left the keep unfinished.
The keep of Sunpu Castle would be completed not long after the fire!!
THEY ATTACKED US WITH FIRE, JUST AS I EXPECTED, EH, ROKURO?
I AM IMPRESSED, MY LORD.

SAKON

左近

戦国風雲録

Chapter Twenty Two

Presented by Hokuto no Gun
Translated by SystematicChaos
Proofread by Wright
Edited by Akromata

www.hokutonogun.com

FIGHT TAZMO

To my fellow fans -

Recently, a member of the community named Blud typed out a informative, and well written page that detailed the exploits of Narutofan creator Tazmo.

The point of this was to further spread the awareness of who Tazmo is, what he does, and why it is wrong. However, things like these tend to eventually need updating, and that is why this has been typed out.

What Blud stated is all very correct. However, it must be brought to everyones attention that Tazmo has expanded into full blown, stand alone websites that he has referred to as "revolutionary services".

http://www.anime-plus.com

and

http://www.manga-plus.com

These websites seek to misinform manga and anime fans across the world into believing that his services are fair, the only one of their kind, and more secure than using other resources such as IRC or BitTorrent to get what you want.

The truth is as follows: Tazmo himself uses IRC and BitTorrent to get the files on his websites. He uses the FREE resources that every single one of you can also use, so that he can charge you various fees for getting what is FREE.

Tazmo is profiteering off of a FREE service provided by various members of the anime and manga community who donate their spare time to bring the latest manga and anime to you for FREE. They donate their time, work, and abilities in various areas, as well as use their own bandwidth to serve files.

There are various FREE ways to get and read the manga you want. There are free online readers such as http://www.onemanga.com as well as http://www.mangahut.com.

There are also resource websites such as http://www.mangahelpers.com, http://www.mangashare.com, as well as database resource sites such as http://www.mangaupdates.com.

There are thousands of people who work thousands of hours weekly to bring you the manga you love to read, as well as the anime you love to watch. They do it not to make a profit, but for FREE as a FREE service to the community that we all love very much. **EVERYTIME TAZMO MAKES MONEY OFF OF THEIR HARD WORK HE NOT ONLY INSULTS THEM, BUT INSULTS ALL THOSE WHO PAY FOR HIS SERVICE. Do the right thing, stop supporting Tazmo.**

Drafted by Kaleb. Inspired by Blud. Free distribution with any releases is encouraged.
Fight Tazmo. Put this and Blud's page in your releases to get the word out.